

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed June 4, 2004. In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 7, 8, 17, 18, 26 and 27 and rejected claims 1-6, 9-16, 19-25 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Particularly, claims 1, 4-6, 9-16, 19-25 and 28 stand rejected as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,141,686 issued to Jackowski et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,974,457 issued to Waclawsky et al. and claims 2-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,141,686 issued to Jackowski et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,974,457 issued to Waclawsky et al as applied above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,627,819 issued to Dev et al.

Reconsideration in light of the amendments and remarks made herein is respectfully requested.

#### ***Objected to Subject Matter and Claim Amendments***

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. The Examiner objects to claims 7, 8, 17, 18, 26 and 27 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicates that the claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 11, and 20 to include most of the limitations of dependent claims 7, 17, and 26, respectively, and has cancelled claims 4-7, 14-17, and 23-26, without prejudice. However, Applicant has removed some of the limitations and placed them in new claims 56, 57, and 58. Nonetheless, based on the objected to claims in the Office Action, Applicant believes these amended claims are still patentable over the cited prior art.

Similarly, Applicant has added new claims 38-55, which are based on the objected to claims of the Office Action, with some of the limitations removed. However, Applicant believes that these new claims are also clearly patentable over the cited prior art.

**Conclusion**

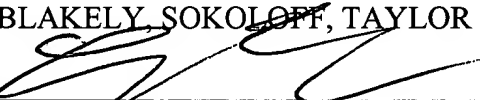
In view of the remarks made above, it is respectfully submitted that pending claims 1-3, 8-13, 18-22, and 27-49 define the subject invention over the prior art of record. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that all the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application. To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 02-2666 and please credit any excess fees to such account.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 9/2/2004

By

  
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**Attachments**

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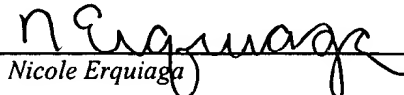
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Nicole Erquiaga  
9/2/2004  
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